



Wing Tips

**108th Air Refueling Wing
New Jersey Air National Guard**

May 2004 Volume 4 Issue 5



TSP open season

Civilian and military employees can sign up for or change their Thrift Savings Plan contribution amounts during the "open season" now through June 30, 2004. For more information please visit the TSP Web site at www.tsp.gov or call Master Sgt. Jennifer Noble-Slaton, 108 MPF, at 609-754-6073.

Earth Fair Fun

The 2004 Burlington County Earth Fair will be held on Sunday, June 13 at the Historic Smithville Park from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Learn about solar energy and composting, participate in canoeing and various workshops, be entertained by the Peppermint Playhouse Puppeteers and much more. Environmental fun for the whole family! Volunteers are needed to help run a recruiting booth. For more information or to volunteer contact Senior Master Sgt. Michele Evans at 609-754-4984.

NJNG Youth Camp

Applications are being accepted for this year's youth camp at the New Jersey National Guard Training Center in Sea Girt, N.J. The camp will run from Aug. 15-21, 2004. Activities include, but are not limited to, sports, arts and crafts, swimming, archery and camping. Children 9-12 may apply as campers, youths 15-17 as junior counselors, and adults 18 and older as counselors. The deadline for all applications is June 15, 2004. For more information and the application log onto the NJNG Family Program Web site at www.state.nj.us/military/familysupport/youth_camp.html.



photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen

Brig. Gen. Eugene Chojnacki, NJANG Commander, addresses members of the 108th Air Refueling Wing, the 177th Fighter Wing, and the Joint Forces Headquarters staff during the Change of Command ceremony. Brig. Gen. Chojnacki assumed command from Maj. Gen. Clark W. Martin in April.

New NJANG Commander

by Brig. Gen. Eugene Chojnacki
NJANG Commander

Let me first say that it is indeed an honor to have this opportunity to command the finest group of military professionals I have ever had the privilege to work with. I look forward to meeting the challenges that come from what can only be called the New Air National Guard. Change is always the operative word in any change of command. While the methods and styles of each commander will vary, the priorities set down by our Adjutant General of strength, readiness and family will not.

Briefly, my five plus years active duty time was as a pilot during the Vietnam era. I then spent four years in the private sector, part of which was as a traditional guardsman. I later entered the New Jersey Air National Guard as a full-time technician where I spent the bulk of my career in various non-flying

positions. I hope to put my experiences in these different operational and support statuses to work for you.

As some of you may have heard in my address at the formal change of command, issues such as BRAC, Vanguard and Transformation will also need to be addressed in the coming months. Everyone in the Joint Force Headquarters is working hard to insure that we remain relevant to the defense of our nation. While the NJANG looks well positioned for the future, we will continue to use every tool we have to maintain our viability. The superior accomplishments of both Wings make that task easier.

I pledge to work with you and for you in meeting the challenges ahead. My personal objective is simple. It is my hope that when my tenure as commander ends, you will be as proud of me as I am of you.

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Commander's Column

by Lt. Col. Robert Doolittle
Operations Group Commander

Operations 'Normal'?

As many of you know, we have experienced a huge increase in the tempo of operations lately. Without going through all the statistics, it is simply stated that being mobilized twice in the last three years has changed the way we do our jobs and the way we prepare for the future. Now that the dust has settled from our last mobilization and we are back into the Air Expeditionary Force (AEF) cycle, we look to get back to a "normal" Air Guard environment.

The difficult issue though, is what do we now consider normal operations? Clearly we continue to be tasked with inspections like the Aircrew Standardization and Evaluation Inspection (ASEV), IGXs and OREs. Continuation training, proficiency training, ground training and aircrew upgrade training are all necessities of our business. Conferences, schools and seminars are more prevalent and relevant than in the past. It is obvious that the pace of the guard is now higher and more demanding than ever before and will continue to be for the foreseeable future.

In Operations we are constantly seeking ways to become more efficient in our training and more effective in our performance. Computer based training allows us maximum flexibility in our ability to accomplish a great deal of ground training. Creative flight scheduling allows us to accomplish many more activities per sortie than in the past. But our greatest weapon in our fight to meet the increasing demands of military expectations is our people. We now have a blend of highly experienced aviators and support personnel combined with fresh new recruits and an increasing number of transferred personnel. This blend of experience and background has allowed us to think about the issues and challenges from an entirely new angle. We have an increasing number of prior service members from other branches of the military. We have former Navy, Marine and Army aviators from different weapons systems now in positions of leadership who help us attack the challenges of today from a unique perspective. Our aviators are now coming from helicopters, training aircraft, fighters, heavy transports and the KC-135. When we roll these different perspectives together, we are able seek and execute solutions to problems like no one in the command. A perfect example is our Tactics shop, which was recently rated as the "Best See to Date" by the ASEV Inspectors. Our Chief of Tactics is a pilot with, besides KC-135 experience, a C-5 and Undergraduate Pilot Training (UPT) training background and our NCOIC in tactics is a former Marine. These divergent backgrounds have combined to create a Tactics environment that the tanker world has never seen. Different perspectives and new perspectives, experience and fresh ideas, we are always looking for input to help us meet the challenges of today and tomorrow.

New ideas and perspectives many times, come from our younger members. Every year we search the country for candidates to send to UPT. These selected candidates are our lieutenants of



Photo by Senior Airman Elizabeth Sheetz

the future, our new blood so to speak. We are again looking for motivated, enthusiastic and hard working people to become pilots of the future. One of our goals is to give our own 108th personnel the opportunity to join the Operations family. We are authorized a number of UPT positions to fill each year and look for some of our own best and brightest to become pilots. Unfortunately, we don't seem to get many interested unit members. Maybe this is due to a lack of advertising on our part, or some misunderstanding on

who is eligible to apply, but we would love to have some of our own people be selected to become pilots in the 108th ARW.

If you are interested in applying to our UPT board for selection to a pilot position for FY 06, time is getting short. If you meet these requirements, we'd love to hear from you. Members must not be older than 28 years old, have a college degree by the time you go to UPT, have taken the AFOQT, and preferably have a pilot's license or flight time toward a license. Here's what you need to do to get your foot in the door and at least meet the board for an interview. Send a resume and a cover letter describing who you are and what your interest is in being a pilot in the 108th to Maj. Christian Lawlor, 108OG/DOV, at christain.lawlor@njmcgu.af.mil. This will get you on the list to be interviewed. If you have questions about the process or UPT contact Maj. Lawlor at 609-754-6314.

Ops Normal is Ops Now. We are more experienced, motivated and trained now than in any time in our existence. We no longer look to the past to measure normal ops tempo, but look to the future to prepare to meet the challenges of yet to be determined missions. The 108th ARW will continue to be at the forefront of Air Guard operations for many years to come.

Ready – Reliable - Relevant

The 108th Operations Group, 108th Air Refueling Wing, NJANG.

108th Air Refueling Wing Editorial Staff

Col. Michael L. Cunniff.....Commander
Maj. Kris Frazier.....Chief of Public Affairs
Staff Sgt. Barbara Harbison.....Wing Tips Staff Writer
Senior Airman Elizabeth Sheetz.....Wing Tips Editor
Senior Airman Song Han.....Information Specialist
108th Multimedia Section.....Photographic Support

108 ARW, Attn Public Affairs, 3327 Charles Blvd., McGuire AFB, NJ 08641-5406; 609-754-4173; fax 609-754-4460. E-mails can be sent to pa.108arw@njmcgu.af.mil.

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Odds and Ends

Free car wash

Buy lunch and get your car washed for free! The Logistics Readiness Squadron and the Security Forces Squadron will be hosting a lunch and car wash on Saturday and Sunday, May 15 and 16. The cost for lunch is \$5.00 and will be served between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on the warehouse side of bldg. 3369.

Lunch and Learn

The first video was a big hit! Everyone enjoyed learning more about what makes Christianity distinctive. The presenter, Luke Timothy Johnson, doesn't shy about from telling about some of the points of struggle. The second lecture will be on the very early period in Christianity's history. Dr. Johnson will make the claim that Christianity was actually founded in the Second Century. Come hear why at the Family Readiness Center, Saturday of the UTA, May 15, at 11:30 a.m.

AF One Source

Air Force One Source is a live 24-hour-a-day helpline for Airmen and their families implemented by the Air Force in an expanded effort to take care of its own. The beyond-the-gate support and referral service will address personal and family support needs from agencies that offer support with childcare, finances, legal matters, deployment and other related issues. Certified counselors are available to answer questions, provide information or guide airmen and their family members to the appropriate resources.

Air Force One Source is available anytime by phone in the United States at 800-707-5784, internationally at 800-7075-7844, internationally collect at 484-530-5913 or at www.airforceone.source.com. The Web site will require customers to log on by using "airforce" as the user ID and "ready" as the password.

Wing Tips deadlines

The deadline for June *Wing Tips* is May 24. Articles and photos should be emailed to: pa.108arw@njmcgu.af.mil. Please ensure digital photos are a minimum of 300 dpi and send the raw file. Articles must be in Word format. Deadline for July *Wing Tips* is July 1 and August *Wing Tips* is August 5.

Wing Tips is now accessible to unit members, retirees and the public on three different Web sites.

It will be placed on the following public Web sites – <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mcguireairguardians> and <http://www.108arw.af.mil>.

Unit members will also find it on the members-only Web site at <https://108mbr.af.mil>.

Printed color copies will be distributed to buildings 3305, 3306, 3324, 3333, 3369, 3390 and 1818.

What's happening

May

May 22	Armed Forces Day
May 31	Memorial Day

June

June 6	D Day
June 13	Burlington County Earth Fair
June 14	Flag Day
June 15	NJNG Youth Camp applications due
June 20	Father's Day
June 21	Summer begins

July

July 4	Independence Day
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Condolences

Condolences to Chief Master Sgt. Denis Dzurinko, whose mother, Ann Beverly Dzurinko passed away on April 19th.

Condolences to the family and friends of Tech. Sgt. Edward "Ned" Koopman, a member of the 108th Maintenance Squadron, who passed away on April 29, 2004. Flowers may be sent to:

St. Stephen's Roman Catholic Church
75 Sandfordville Rd
Warwick, NY 10990

Donations to the Lymphoma Society can be sent in Memoriam of Edward to:

The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society
In Memoriam of Edward Koopman
475 Park Avenue South

8th Floor

New York, NY 10016

or online at www.leukemia-lymphoma.org.

39th Annual ANG Softball Tournament

The 139th Airlift Wing will be hosting the 39th Annual Air National Guard Softball Tournament August 11-15. This Amateur Softball Association (ASA) sanctioned tournament will be held at the Heritage Park in historic St. Joseph, Mo.

There will be a women's, co-ed, modified fast pitch, men's open, men's over 35 and a men's over 45 division with a three game guarantee.

Registration forms and fees can be found on line at <http://aw139.af.mil/softball.html>. For more information call Master Sgt. Doug Phillips, at DSN 356-3150 or commercial 816-236-3150.

2004 Motorcycle Safety

by Tech. Sgt. Mark Hazelbaker
305th Air Mobility Wing Safety

Motorcycle riding season is upon us, and the Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) reminds drivers and riders that May is Motorcycle Awareness Month. Motorcycle riding is more popular than ever. Motorcycle sales rose a remarkable 9.4 percent in 2002, marking the nation's 10th consecutive year of rising motorcycle sales, according to the Motorcycle Industry Council. These motorcycle purchases are being made by riders brand new to the sport, as well as by motorcyclists whose busy lives had caused them to lose touch with a favored pastime. Sharing the road is where motorist awareness starts. MSF urges all motor vehicle drivers to expect to see more motor-cyclists riding in traffic this spring and to respect that they rightfully enjoy the same access to the roads as other traf-fic. Further, MSF reminds all motorcyclists to be respon-sible riders, which includes following the four main safety guidelines listed below. "Motorists often don't look for motorcyclists on the road," said MSF President Tim Buche. "In fact, the most common type of collision occurs when a driver pulls out from an inter-section directly in front of a motorcyclist. Afterward, they usually say they never even saw the bike. This is



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Raymond Knox

Senior Airman Brad Wisniewski, 108th Services Journeyman, ensures that he has all the required gear and courses that enable him to ride his motorcycle on McGuire AFB.

why it is so important for drivers to remember to expect to see motorcyclists on the road, no matter what time of year."

The Motorcycle Safety Foundation and McGuire AFB Wing Safety offer these guidelines for motorcyclists:

(1) Get Trained—The Air Force lost 23 members to motorcycle accidents in FY 2003 and 7 members in FY 2004 so far. Just recently, Team McGuire tragically lost an Airman to a motorcycle mishap. Whether you're a new rider or someone with years of experience, there's always room for skills improvement. More than 90 percent of all riders involved in crashes were either self-taught or taught by friends. The MSF's newest curriculum, the Basic Rider Course, is avail-able at more than 1100 training sites across the U.S. For information on training in your area, call toll-free (800) 446-9227 or visit www.msf-usa.org. McGuire AFB offers the Basic Riders Course (BRC) and Experienced Riders Course (ERC) at no cost. The courses are offered annually, April through October. To get signed up for either course, call Wing Safety at 754-7233 or e-mail 305amw.seg@mcguire.af.mil.

(2) Ride Sober—Recent data confirms that alcohol is involved in almost half of all single-vehicle motorcycle crashes. Don't drink and ride. And don't ride impaired. Drugs (prescription, over-the-

See Safety page 9

Boom Operator swears in as police chief

One of the 108 Operations Group's KC-135 boom operators, John Holland, a resident of Nutley, N.J., was sworn in as the Police Chief of Nutley Township during a March ceremony.

Holland joined the Nutley Police Department in September 1972. His police career progressed steadily, attaining the rank of sergeant in 1977, captain in 1986 and deputy chief in 1990.

While serving the Nutley community, Holland joined the 108th Air Refueling



Courtesy photo

From left to right are Col. Michael Cunniff, 108th Air Refueling Wing Commander, Tech. Sgt. John Holland, 141st Air Refueling Squadron, and Master Sgt. John Connors, 141st Air Refueling Squadron.

Wing in 1988, working in the Repair and Reclamation shop, as a crew chief, before cross training as a boom operator in 1994.

In his comments, Holland acknowledged the influences in his life contributing to his success. Commenting on his association with the 108th he said, "I know I will be a better chief of police because of the values imparted to me by this outstanding group of Americans."

MEO Crossword Puzzle

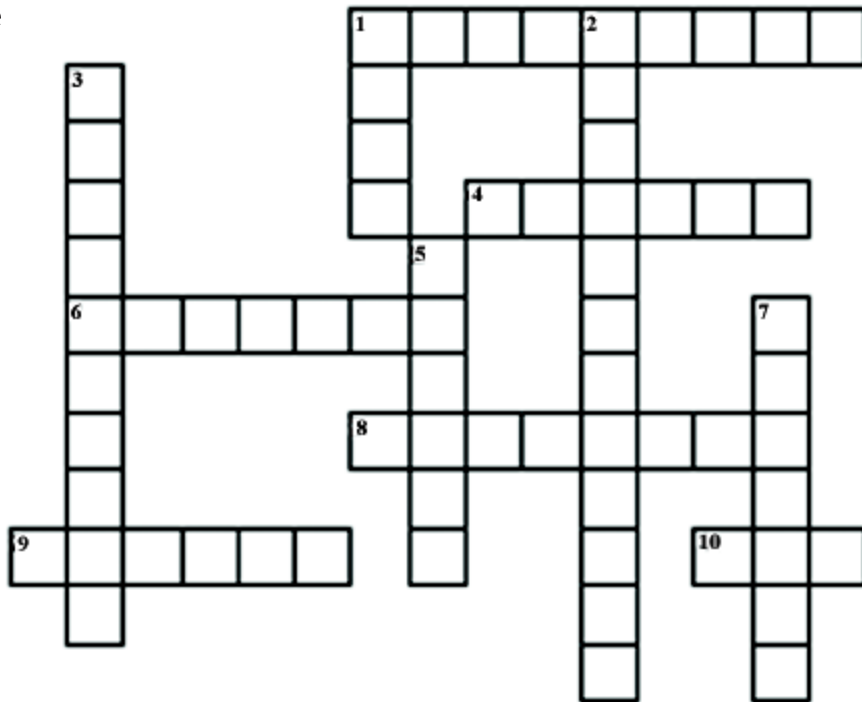
Courtesy of the Military Equal Opportunity Office

Across

1. The mission of the 108th ARW.
4. In 1914, this president made the official announcement proclaiming Mother's Day as a national holiday.
6. The purpose of this puzzle.
8. When ranks/last names are used for members of the other gender. This may also be considered disrespectful toward members of one gender.
9. _____ Armed Services Integration Act was established in 1948.
10. Formally known as Social Actions.

Down

1. Walk the talk. _____ model.
2. The use of language that is gender specific (guys/he) as a universal.
3. The result of education/training and awareness courses.
5. Accommodating sexist behavior by reinforcing or encouraging it, rather than questioning, checking or opposing it. Pro-_____.
7. This day is celebrated the second Sunday in May.



Front and Center

Name: Dawn Marie Young

Rank: Staff Sgt.

Age: 27

Time in service: Four years, five months in active duty and one year, nine months in the Guard

Job in the 108th: Personnel Specialist (MXS)

Family: Loving parents, a sweet brother, an angel for a sister, a caring boyfriend, and a wonderful dog

Favorite food: Chicken pot pie

Favorite movie: *Goonies*

Favorite Actress: Julia Roberts

Favorite TV show: *General Hospital* and *Sunday Morning*

Favorite book: "Walden" by Henry David Thoreau

Favorite music genre: Country

Favorite sport: Hiking

What I do with my spare time: Travel and spend time with the people I love

People I most admire: Kind and positive people

Dream vacation: Kenya, Africa for a safari

Dream car: A luxury SUV

My goals are: Build my own home, live life to the fullest, and explore the world

Words to the wise: Being patient, open-minded, flexible, and thankful makes for a happy life

Pet Peeve: Laziness

What I like most about the 108th Air Refueling Wing: The people that make me smile everyday

If I were commander for the day I would: Visit everyone and thank them for their hard work in supporting freedom



Courtesy photo

Boom Box



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen

Master Sgt. Rafael Jimenez, 108th Maintenance Squadron, sings the national anthem during the New Jersey Air National Guard Change of Command.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Olsen

Col. Maria Falca-Dodson, the Deputy Adjutant General, became the first woman to obtain the rank of Brigadier General in the New Jersey Air National Guard. She was "pinned" on April 17, 2004 by Brig. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, The Adjutant General, and Mr. Buck Dodson.



Courtesy Photo

Maj. Paul Novello, Base Civil Engineer Commander, presents a certificate of appreciation to Mr. Jack Tuminaro, Eastern Mountain Sports, for his Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. "My employer is always very supportive...understanding like this from an employer is rare and greatly appreciated," Novello stated.



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Raymond Knox

Chief Master Sgt. Olga LaSalle, former 108th Command Chief, accepts the flag that was folded in her honor from Master Sgt. Don Newlin, 108th Air Refueling Wing Honor Guard Superintendent.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Martin Horvath

Brig. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, The Adjutant General, passes the ceremonial flag to Brig. Gen. Eugene Chojnacki, NJANG Commander, during the April New Jersey Air National Guard Change of Command.



Photo by Senior Airman Elizabeth Sheetz

Col. Alphonse Stephenson, Chaplain, was "pinned" by Brig. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, The Adjutant General, and Col. Al Bunting, Special Executive Assistant to the Adjutant General.

KUDOS

Congratulations to Senior Master Sgt. Stanton Frye, 108th Aircraft Generation Squadron. Sgt. Frye was named the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Federal Employee for the 4th quarter of FY 03.

Memorial Day - just another day off?

by Senior Airman Elizabeth Sheetz
Wing Tips Editor

To many, Memorial Day is just another holiday off. But Memorial Day – originally known as Decoration Day – is a day of remembrance for those who have given their lives for our country.

In 1868, General John A. Logan, first commander of the Grand Army of the Republic issued a General Order establishing May 30 as an official memorial day to pay respect to all those who had died during the Civil War.

On May 5, 1868, Logan declared in General Order No. 11 that:

The 30th of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late

rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village, and hamlet churchyard in the land. In this observance no form of ceremony is prescribed, but posts and comrades will in their own way arrange such fitting services and testimonials of respect as circumstances may permit.

During Decoration Day ceremonies, townspeople decorated the many graves of Confederate and Union Soldiers with flowers and flags. During these ceremonies the South refused to acknowledge Decoration Day, preferring to honor their dead on a separate day, until after World War I.

In 1882, the name was changed to Memorial Day and soldiers who gave their lives, whether in the north or south, and during any war or peace, were honored.



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Raymond Knox
To stay sharp, members of the 108th Air Refueling Wing Honor Guard practice in a local cemetery.

In 1971, Memorial Day was declared a national holiday to be held on the last Monday in May.

This Memorial Day, May 31st, don't just think about the day off. Remember the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines who died to give you that day and honor them.

Travel cardholders have online-payment option

by Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Airmen with government travel cards can now make payments to their accounts online.

The "MyEasyPayment" system allows Airmen with government travel cards to pay off residual or unexpected charges not covered by split disbursement payments, said Josephine Davis, the Air Force banking liaison officer.

"Split disbursement of travel card payments is mandatory for military members and by default for civilians, but there are unavoidable situations when the split-disbursed amount does not cover your total charges," Ms. Davis said.

Airmen are required to use their government cards for airline tickets, hotels and rental cars for military travel. They may also use their cards to purchase meals and to get cash for incidental expenses.

When Airmen return from travel, they file a voucher so they can be reimbursed for their expenses. That payment, or disbursement, is split between the Airmen's personal-checking account and their travel-card account. Airmen are responsible for indicating how much money should be sent to the travel-card account. If there is a miscalculation of the amount owed on the travel card, there can be residual or unexpected charges still owed.

An example of an unexpected or residual charge is when an Airman makes a purchase overseas and the exchange rate changes before the merchant processes the charge, Ms. Davis said.

"There could be additional money owed there," she said. "Instead of the transaction costing \$50, it may now cost \$52.

Another example is when Airmen lose receipts and forget about charges on their cards.

Despite those types of errors, Ms. Davis said Airmen are still responsible for paying off their accounts in full.

"Just like with any other credit card, it is our responsibility to know what we owe," Ms. Davis said. "Sometimes you need to call the bank and find out what you need to pay. This system gives you the opportunity to make those payments."

Airmen with questions about being reimbursed for unexpected or residual charges on their accounts should contact their military travel pay office, Ms. Davis said. Travelers may need to file an amended travel voucher if they feel they are owed money.

The payment system is available at www.myeasypayment.com. To use the system, cardholders need to know the amount they want to pay on the card, the card's account number and security code, and their checking account and bank routing numbers.

Ms. Davis said cardholders can check their account balance by calling the toll-free number on the back of the card.

2004 NJANJ Scholarship winners

Congratulations to Christopher O. Brooks, son of Master Sgt. Karl Meixner, and Leslie M. Cameron, daughter of Lt. Col. Thomas Cameron. Brooks and Cameron were the 108th winners of the 2004 National Guard Association of New Jersey Scholarship program. They will each receive a thousand dollar scholarship to help further their education.

Chaplain's Corner

Memorial Day - 2004

by Ch, Maj. James Vandellune
108th ARW Chaplain



In a few days the calendar will mark another Memorial Day. Will it come and then be forgotten? Most of us who wear the uniform will at least pause to "Remember" the sacrifices made by our fallen comrades in this war and past ones, and some of us may even attend a local ceremony that commemorates them. Public remembering is not only good for us it's crucial for the health and collective conscience of the entire community. It serves an especially important function for those whose memories are dimmed by prosperity, and those who have no collective consciousness, because of youth, lack of knowledge or lack of experience. It's for our children and grandchildren's sake that we must remember.

While it is true that no one life is worth any more than another, sometimes the loss of a particular life drives home a point in a dramatic way. Such recently happened in the war in Afghanistan. Who wasn't deeply moved by the death of Sgt. Pat Tillman, an already established professional football star player who rejected a guaranteed, multi-million dollar contract in order to enlist in the military and do his part? Actually, to do more than his part. **Why? Why did he do it?** The answers include that he loved his country, he believed in the principles of freedom

and justice. He believed that he had a personal obligation to uphold those principles. He understood that his obligation to his country and to those principles exceeded his right to earnings on the football field, or anywhere else. Some would say, what strange ideas. Other would salute them as representative of the best values that have made America great.

I would like to suggest an additional reason why Pat Tillman, who more than most, put into action his willingness to sacrifice everything for the cause; after all, not many of us would turn our backs on \$3 million a year in the full awareness that it could cost us our life when we don't have to. So, from where did that remarkable quality come? I don't know any more than what I've read about this heroes' life, but I have a strong sense that he didn't just wake up with this quality. He learned it, and it didn't come easily or cheaply. You don't become a person of integrity, a person of high moral character, you don't become a Pat Tillman without people (parents, family, teachers, coaches, youth leaders, community leaders) who teach you and show you the way, virtually everyday of your life. It's that reality that concerns me. The Pat Tillmans of this world do not rise out of a vacuum.

How much time do we spend making it our primary object to model, teach and train not only our children and grandchildren, but the Village children too. The values our kids get from TV, MTV, and from many other sources sure aren't conducive to service and sacrifice. How much time do they spend there? Compare that to the time we spend modeling virtue, service and sacrifice. If we don't teach them who will? If we don't model it, who will? We can't wish it into being.

There's some verses in the Old Testament book of *Deuteronomy* 6:6-9 that God gave to the people after they had escaped from years of bad example, and after He gave them some preferred guidelines for how to live as thankful, grateful people who were now free. What He said was, "What I am telling you, you are to impress, diligently on the hearts and minds of your children; (I want you to) talk to them when you sit down in your house and when you walk by the way, when you lie down and when you rise up." Moses went on to say, I even want you "to write them on your hands (so you don't forget them) and on the door posts of your house and on your gates." OK, so maybe Moses didn't have in mind that we should fly the flag on the doorposts, and maybe that's a little interpretive stretch, but the idea isn't.

If we don't lead the way, the way will be closed. Remembering isn't just something we do for ourselves. Others are depending on us! If we don't teach them, who will?

Family Assistance Across the State

by Tiffany Colby
Family Readiness Manager

Did you know that you might be a lot closer to a Family Assistance Center than you thought? Even though the 108th Family Readiness Center is located at McGuire Air Force Base, there are other Family Assistance Centers across the state. The New Jersey Army National Guard, over the past few months, has opened nine new Family Assistance Centers.

These facilities have qualified staff and volunteers ready to assist you with any need that may arise. Facilities have computer access, the latest information on

benefits and education, listings of local resources, video conferencing, play areas for children and active Family Readiness Groups. These facilities are located within armories across the state. There is one toll free phone number for all locations: 888-859-0352.

The Family Assistance Centers are located in:
Cape May
Jersey City
Lawrenceville
McGuire AFB, 108th ARW Family Readiness Center
Morristown

Pomona, 177th FW Family Readiness Center
Somerset
Teaneck
Toms River
Woodbury

For more information call Tiffany Colby, 609-754-4479 or stop by the 108th ARW Family Readiness Center.



Safety

from page 4

counter, or otherwise) diminish visual capabilities and affect judgment. If you think you can't ride without taking a drink, please consider that alcohol dependency may be putting you at risk.

(3) Get Licensed—The MSF worked with the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to update an improved motorcycle operator licensing system, now an official national standard. Licensing agencies in 31 states use one of four different MSF skill tests. MSF's motor-cycle operator manual is used in 41 states, and 29 states incorporate the supporting knowledge test. For information on licensing requirements, check out www.msf-usa.org and click on the "State Laws" link.

(4) Ride Responsibly—All motorcycles must be registered and be properly insured under state law before they may be operated at any location on McGuire AFB. No motorcycle may be legally operated on a roadway on McGuire AFB unless the vehicle complies with the following: (NJSA 39:3-76.3 through 39:3-76.10). All motorcycles and motorcycle riders operating on McGuire AFB will comply with the following:

- The motorcycle operator must successfully complete Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF)-based State-approved curriculum taught by certified or licensed instructors.
- Personnel must be in possession of Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) card and McGuire AFB Form 244 before issuance of AF Form 75 or DD Form 2219 or 2220.
- Contact Wing Safety to verify if the motorcycle safety course from another installation will be authorized.
- Individuals that are enrolled in the motorcycle safety course through the Wing Safety office will be identified to the security

forces by letter prior to the course date. These individuals will be authorized to drive their motorcycles on base to attend the course.

- Brightly colored vest or jacket as an upper garment will be worn during the day and will be reflective during the night. The outer garment will be clearly visible and not covered.
- The reflective belt is not a suitable alternative to the reflective vest or jacket.
- Long sleeved shirts or jackets, full fingered motorcycle gloves or mittens, and long trousers are required.
- Operator and any passenger must wear impact resistant goggles or a full-face shield on their DOT approved helmet. EXCEPTION: Goggles or a full-face shield are not required for the operator if the motorcycle is equipped with a windshield that is equal in height to or above the top of the helmet of the properly upright-seated operator.
- Headlights must be turned on at all times while vehicle is in operation.
- Vehicle must have license plate light, taillight, and stop light.
- Brakes will be on both wheels.
- Foot rests, rear view mirror, and horn are required.
- Handlebars that are higher than the shoulder height of the operator when seated are not authorized.
- Motorcycles are permitted to park in the triangle space at the end of all parking lots with the exception of next to handicapped parking spaces so that it would cause the handicapped person(s) difficulty entering and/or exiting the vehicle. Motorcycles cannot share a parking slot with any other vehicles.

Verbal warnings will be issued from the 305th SFS and 305 AMW Safety to individuals who do not comply with the above guidelines. Starting in May, (Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month), the 305 SFS may issue a DD Form 1408, Armed Forces Traffic Ticket, to individuals in violation of the above guidelines on McGuire AFB.

Sources: *Road & Rec* magazine, AFSC, DODI 6055.4, AFI 91-207, and MAFBI 31-204

Civilian Employment Information Program

The Department of Defense began its Civilian Employment Information (CEI) program in March of this year. This is a mandatory program for all members of the Ready Reserves.

Under this program, Guard and Reserve members are required to register information about their civilian employer and job skills in order for the DoD to meet three different requirements defined in law. The DoD is required to give consideration to civilian employment necessary to maintain national health, safety and interest when considering members for recall; ensure that members with critical civilian skills are not retained in numbers beyond those needed for those skills, and; inform employers of reservists of their rights and responsibilities under the Uniformed Services Employment and Re-employment Rights Act.

For more information on this program and to register your employer visit <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/Guard-ReservePortal>.

New WWII Memorial opened

Some 59 years after the war, a World War II War Memorial has been erected between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial. The memorial, which cost \$170 million to build and will be officially dedicated May 29 during Memorial Day weekend, culminates an 11-year effort to honor America's WWII generation.

Two 43-foot arches welcome visitors to a bronze and granite memorial plaza. The arches serve as north and south entries to the plaza, and within each arch are four bronze eagles that hold a suspended victory laurel.

A 17-foot granite pillar adorned with bronze oak and wheat wreaths, symbolic of the nation's industrial and agricultural strength, represents each state and territory from that period.

In the center of the pillars stands a rainbow reflecting pool with fountains and a wall with 4,000 sculpted, gold-plated stars. The stars commemorate the 400,000 American soldiers who died in the war and the 16 million who served and supported the war effort from home.

For more information on the memorial visit www.WWII memorial.com.

101 critical days' begins on Memorial Day

Courtesy of the 108th ARW Safety Office

If statistics hold true, 21 airmen will die this summer while "having fun."

The period between Memorial Day and Labor Day is a period of increased off-duty injuries caused by increased activity and risk taking, according to officials from the Air Force Safety Center at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M.

"The '101 Critical Days of Summer' safety campaign draws attention to increased safety awareness and risk management during this critical time," said John Russell, the center's chief of ground safety.

Russell said people taking advantage of summer weather for sports and recreational activities, and hitting the road for vacations cause the elevated mishap rate.

Over the last five years, the Air Force has lost an average of 21 members during summer. Of those off-duty fatalities, Russell said 70 percent are in the 18- to 25-year-old age group.

"The most significant loss of life among Air Force members involves private

motor vehicles," he said. "These are tragic and preventable mishaps."

Driving while impaired, speeding and fatigue were the leading contributing factors in the fatal motor vehicle mishaps, Russell said.

Motorcycle mishaps accounted for about one-third of the Air Force's fatal motor vehicle accidents. Lack of proficiency, speeding and impaired driving were the primary contributors to the fatal two-wheeled incidents, said Russell.

"Personal safety is the responsibility of each Air Force member, and risk management is a vital part of all activities," Russell said. "We must be constantly vigilant by analyzing risks, making smart decisions and reassessing risks during the activity."

Safety officials offer the following factors to consider when planning summer travel:

- Wear seatbelts.
- Remain alert while at the wheel and plan rest breaks at frequent intervals.

— Don't speed in an effort to arrive early – it is better to arrive late than not arrive at all.

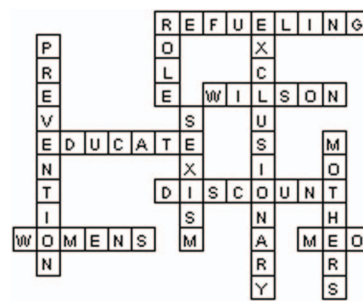
— Don't drink alcohol and drive.

— Anticipate the unexpected and be ready to react.

More than anything else, Russell said airmen and their families should use common sense during the summer, paying particular attention to their surroundings, so that each and every one remains safe and ready to support the Air Force mission.

"People are our most valuable resource," he said. "We need all of them back safe and sound when that vacation comes to a close."

Solution to MEO's crossword on page



Say what?



Courtesy photo

"I must become one with the plane, feel its emotion."

- 1st Lt. Paul Koester, 108 Military Equal Opportunity Office

The rules

1. Write a comical or imaginative caption or cutline.
2. All entries must be submitted by May 24, 2004. Submit your entry via e-mail to pa.108arw@njmcgu.af.mil or drop off your entries to the public affairs office in bldg. 3327, room 110. When submitting your entry please be sure to include your name, rank, duty section and duty phone.
3. Please limit your entries to two per person.
4. The person with the funniest or most imaginative entry will receive a 305th Services Squadron Gold Card.
5. The winner can pick up his or her prize anytime in room 110 of bldg. 3327.



Courtesy photo

Write a caption or cutline for this photo. The writer with the funniest or most imaginative entry will be printed in the next issue of Wing Tips and receives a 305th Services Squadron Gold Card.